Actual Control are fully equipped and alert enough to meet any sudden, offensive action from the other side; and

(b) what is the present state of intrusion from other side of the Line of Actual Control ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Effective counter-measures, including deployment of additional troops in selected areas, have been taken to prevent infiltration across the Line of Control.

Visit of Lt. General of South Command to Gujarat

1018. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the view of recent visit of Lt. General of Southern Command to Gujarat on 22nd September, 1992;

(b) whether the purpose of visit was to make certain recommendations to State Government of Gujarat on internal security view and communal tension; and

(c) whether the matter regarding border was discussed with Chief Minister of Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) It is customary for the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief to pay a courtesy call on the Chief Minister, whenever they visit the State capitals in their area of responsibility. During his visit to Gujarat on 22nd September, 1992, the GOC-in-C, Southern Command, calld on the State Chief Minister and *inter dlia,* reviewed the security situation along the border.

Strength of Pak Army

1019. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER :

Wil the Minster of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item that appeared in the Indian Express dated the 9th November, 1992 under the caption 'Pak army now well equipped';

(b) whether there is a strong view in Pakistan that India, at present, is incapable of launching any major offensive as major strength of its army is pinned down in internal deployment in Punjab, Kashmir and Assam;

(c) whether Pakistan army brass are convinced that India can not launch any major offensive from Punjab and Kashmir, which have been traditional battle grounds with Pakistan due to increased internal security operations in these two key border States;

(d) whether the Pakistani Generals feel that recent victory of Mujahideen forces in Afghanistan and developments in Central Asia have given a strategic depth in defence allowing its planners to focus more strongly on India; and

(e) if so, what is the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Government are aware of the increase in the size of the Pakistan army and acquisition of sophisticated weapons, far beyond its legitimate defence requirements.

(b) to (d) Government do not have any inputs to support such a view.

(e) Government kept a close watch on all developments having a bearing on national security and take appropriate measures from time to time to ensure defence preparedness.

Joint Naval Exercises with China

1020. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to have joint naval exercises with China;

(b) if so, what are the other countries with whom joint naval exercises are proposed to be held; and

(c) what are the benefits likely to be derived therefrom so far as country's interest is concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) No